

## Our Brief History of Passions and Calling

*A pathway from vision to operations with a goal of getting Heaven into people's hearts...*

*By Daniel W. Dill, Chairman & CEO, LifeLift International*



*Capt. Dan Dill, FedEx Ret. – LifeLift Chairman/CEO*

In September 1976 we first sensed a calling to utilize our experience in long-range heavy airlift and logistics to support worldwide Church activity and contribute to fulfillment of the Great Commission in our generation.

LifeLift International began as a California 501(c)(3) Christian non-profit corporation in the fall of 1999 based on passions to serve Jesus and for flying. We felt we could leverage our professional gifts in aviation to most effectively serve in God's kingdom, sharing the Gospel through deed and word.

Aviation is an essential but capital-intensive resource. As stewards of God's resources we believe funds should only be spent on such assets when they would be the most efficient or only means of accomplishing an essential mission. We also believed we first needed to demonstrate an ability to serve in a purely logistics role until critical need requires acquisition of aviation resources.

Logistics encompasses the identification of critical needs then locating vital resources to meet such needs and connecting them by getting the right things and the right people to the right places in the right quantities at the right time. Facilitation of funding and forming resident management infrastructure assures success and long-term sustainability. Related networking and coordination with

ministry organizations worldwide multiplies resources and reduces duplications of effort.

In 2003 our board of directors investigated to find the greatest humanitarian need in the Developing World. We concluded that it is an inadequate supply of safe water. Water resource development is essential to health and productivity. Over ninety-percent of the Developing World has inadequate water.

Once communities have adequate safe water it is feasible when necessary to overlay micro-enterprise to restart local economies and commerce as a resource to sustain better nutrition and medical services. Often we would include biblical leadership training as a vital part of community redevelopment. We do this all in the name of Jesus Christ.

In 2004 we entered a Regional Partnership with African Enterprise (AE) in Kenya and nine other African nations. They joined with us to offer evangelistic support and church planting alongside our redevelopment work.

At Living Word Church in Miu, Southeast Kenya, we recently drilled a productive well (borehole). AE concurrently conducted a successful evangelistic crusade with our financial assistance and claimed 120 first-time believers in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ while significantly increasing local church membership and financial support.

In early 2005 we facilitated a peace accord, ending years of bloodshed between warring factions of the Maasai and Kikuyu people in the Great Rift Valley, as a condition for providing a borehole to each community.

We have a pending hydroelectric project in an isolated war-torn region of the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). We may acquire aircraft to extend our reach into the DRC and even Southern Sudan and to enhance our long-range logistics capacity.

Our commitment and duty must be vigilance to God's eternal callings, in unity with His will and timing and for His praise and glory.